NEW YORK, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1914.

The New York Times

VOLUME 1. NO. 16.
PRICE TEN CENTS.

MID-WEEK PICTORIAL

Published every week by The New York Times Company, Times Square, New York. Subscription rate, $1.25 for 3 months, $5.00 per year.

WAR EXTRA

Copyright, 1914, by The New York Times Company. Entered at the New York Post Office as second class matter.

Printed by the New Rotogravure Process

THE WAR SITUATION

Up to and Including December 18, 1914.

THE great seesaw in the east stands today with the Russians down and the Germans up. Invasion, defeat, counter-invasion, counter-defeat, has been the history of the war along the vast eastern front since that day in August when the first Russian invasion of East Prussia was hurled back at the gigantic battle of Tannenberg. How far the German victory may have gone will be known by the time this article is read, but is not known now. According to the official announcement of the Germans, the Russians have been defeated and are being pursued throughout Poland and Galicia.

It doubtless means a new Russian stand near the Vistula if the history of the campaign is any indication of the future. Each retreat of either the Germans or the Russians has been heralded on the victorious side as a complete rout and catastrophe for the defeated one, but it has never meant anything of the kind. It has been a disaster each time, but one quickly repaired and leading only to a new attack by the defeated party; an attack made in greater force and with deadlier intent.

Why Retreats Are Long.

IN each case the defeated party has retreated as close as necessary to its base in order to draw fresh and greater forces with more ease. In each case it has gone further than it apparently needed to go; instead of stopping as soon as it could, as did the Germans when they retreated from the Marne, it has gone far toward its own base to facilitate its recoupment. For instance, when the Germans were driven from the Vistula in October, if they had followed von Kluck's precedent they would have stopped in Poland and formed a new line, but they did not; they retreated into Silesia. At the same time, in the southern field they went into Hungary and into Galicia almost as far as Cracow.

There has been another reason for this besides the desire to get close to the base. As the retreating army was strengthened by proximity to its base, so the pursuing army was weakened, and a double advantage was gained. This helps to explain the seesaw character of the war; a weakening comes with a victory followed up too far, as a strengthening comes with a retreat carried far enough.

The Russians began the seesaw in August with their first invasion of East Prussia. It ended in rout at Tannenberg on Aug. 27, one of the most frightful battles of history. The Germans followed it up by a forward movement which got as far as the Niemen. But a month after Tannenberg the Germans had failed in their turn, and the Russians had begun a second invasion, which reached the Masur Lakes on the north and Soldau on the south. The Germans made a new assault, this time from Soldau toward Warsaw. A week ago that ended in defeat, and the Russians began a third attack on East Prussia. Their northern forces have never been dislodged from the Masur Lakes region.

Meanwhile, in Poland both the Germans and Austrians had begun an invasion in August. The Austrians were beaten back from the region east of the Vistula and forced out of Poland, but they returned late in September and reached the Vistula just as the Germans, who had suspended operations for a time after advancing some distance into Poland, advanced against Warsaw. By the third week in October both Germans and Austrians had been beaten back, but they advanced again on Nov. 10.

The battle, or series of battles, which began on that date is the one which has now ended, according to Berlin and Vienna, in a Russian defeat all along the line. The Germans give it the august title of "The Battle of Poland." The old days, when the name of a city or a river was sufficient to identify a battleground, have passed; much more the days when a farm or a church—Chrysler's Farm, or Shiloh, or Gaines's Mill—was big enough to give a name to a conflict. We now have to name the battles after countries, and hear of the battle of Poland or the battle of Flanders. Even "the battle of the Aisne" is inadequate, for the conflict which began on that river now stretches all across Northern France.

The Battle of Poland.

THE Germans, following the custom of both armies in this campaign, had retreated much further than might have been expected; had gone clear into Silesia, where they had been followed by the Russians. The new battle of Poland began with a sudden and overwhelming attack by von Hindenburg on the Russian right, which gave way, and by Nov. 19 the Germans had broken through the Russian centre at Lodz.

It was then that the Grand Duke Nicholas almost surrounded the German advance—did surround a great portion of it—and that it was in such danger from that famous "iron ring," from which it might never have escaped but for Rennenkampf's failure to bring up his forces in time—a failure for which he was disgraced by the Czar. For three days the Germans were in dire peril, but by Nov. 26 they had escaped and the forward movement resumed and extended all along the line.

After ten days' hard fighting they pushed back the Russian centre and occupied Lodz. Mackensen attacked the right wing on the Bzura River, while the Austrians came over the Carpathians and made their attack on the left in Galicia. The fighting that began then has lasted about two weeks, and it is concerning this that the Germans now report victory.

It will thus be seen that if their report is correct they have thrown back the entire Russian Army. They had already pushed back the centre; they have now hurled back the right and left wings to keep it company. Where does it leave them? Just about where they were at the beginning of October, unless the Russian disaster is vastly greater than we can now conceive as likely. That is, the Russians are obliged to take the defensive again close to the Vistula. And if they follow the course they have pursued through the whole campaign they will retreat as far as they think necessary in order to be close to their base and to have a good vantage ground, and will then turn again on an enemy far from its own base. Is not the word seesaw applicable to this eastern campaign, as the word deadlock is to the western?

Meanwhile the Allies in the western field have begun at last a forward movement, which was proclaimed to be, and may really be, the beginning of the great campaign to drive the Germans out of Belgium. It was begun all along the line, from Flanders to the Vosges Mountains. This movement was not expected to begin until Spring, but it is said that Gen. Joffre found himself ready to make it three months earlier than had been anticipated.

Fighting in Winter.

BOTH in this case and in that of Poland the old tradition that there must be a slackening, if not a total suspension, of hostilities in Winter time has been thoroughly shattered by this war. At the beginning it was assumed as a matter of course that Winter would suspend the fighting, and in the cold regions of the eastern campaign would actually stop it altogether — that it would be a physical impossibility to fight there. Yet the war in December is being more savagely fought than in September.

The only break in the Allies' line in France is at St. Mihiel, and the object of the French campaign is to close up that break. If they can do it their line will be intact from Switzerland to Verdun. But the campaign in Alsace is offensive; it is an invasion.

The Allies had one great success this week—the recapture of Belgrade. When King Peter entered the city at the head of his troops the Austrians had lost Servia and suffered the most humiliating defeat of the whole war, a dangerous defeat because of the violent feeling it aroused at home. That feeling expressed itself in some quarters in riots.

Another important event was England's assumption of a protectorate over Egypt and the end of Turkish suzerainty there. It is the foretaste of what is to be Turkey's fate if the war ends in her defeat and that of her allies, Germany and Austria, and shows that the Triple Entente powers were not speaking idly when they warned Turkey to stay out of the war for her own salvation.

The event which aroused the most attention was one of no military importance whatever—the raid of the German cruisers on the English coast. If of no military importance, however, it was of immense importance in every other way. It was another practical demonstration to Great Britain of that warning which the author of "The Battle of Dorking" gave her more than forty years ago—that a fleet was not necessarily a fortification.

(Erratum. Page 21. "King Frederick of Denmark" should read "King Christian of Denmark.")

Admiral Sir John Jellicoe

IN SUPREME COMMAND OF THE BRITISH HOME FLEETS.

(Copyright, 1914, by Raphael Tuck & Sons, Ltd.)

GERMANS RUSHING UP A SNOW-CAPPED HILL TO TAKE UP AN ENTRENCHED POSITION AFTER A SUDDEN ALARM FROM HEADQUARTERS.

GERMAN OFFICERS AND NATIVE TROOPS IN THE CAMEROONS PREPARING TO MEET THE ENGLISH EXPEDITIONARY FORCE.

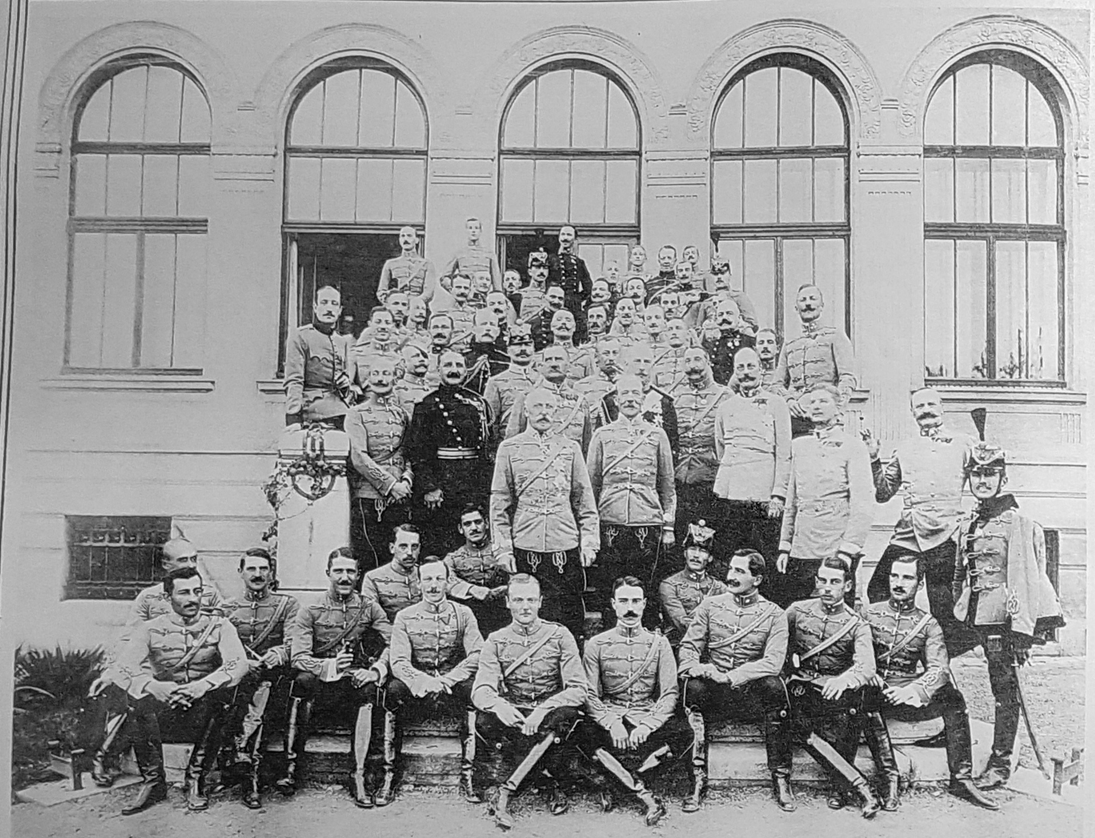
A RUSSIAN AIRSHIP FLYING NEAR THE GERMAN LINES IN POLAND.

A CAPTURED SPY ESCORTED BY FRENCH CAVALRY GUARD AT BACCARAT

INTERIOR OF A CHURCH AT ROKITNOV, NEAR WARSAW, DESTROYED BY THE GERMANS.
(This is one of the first photographs received from Warsaw, several of which are exclusively reproduced in this issue.)

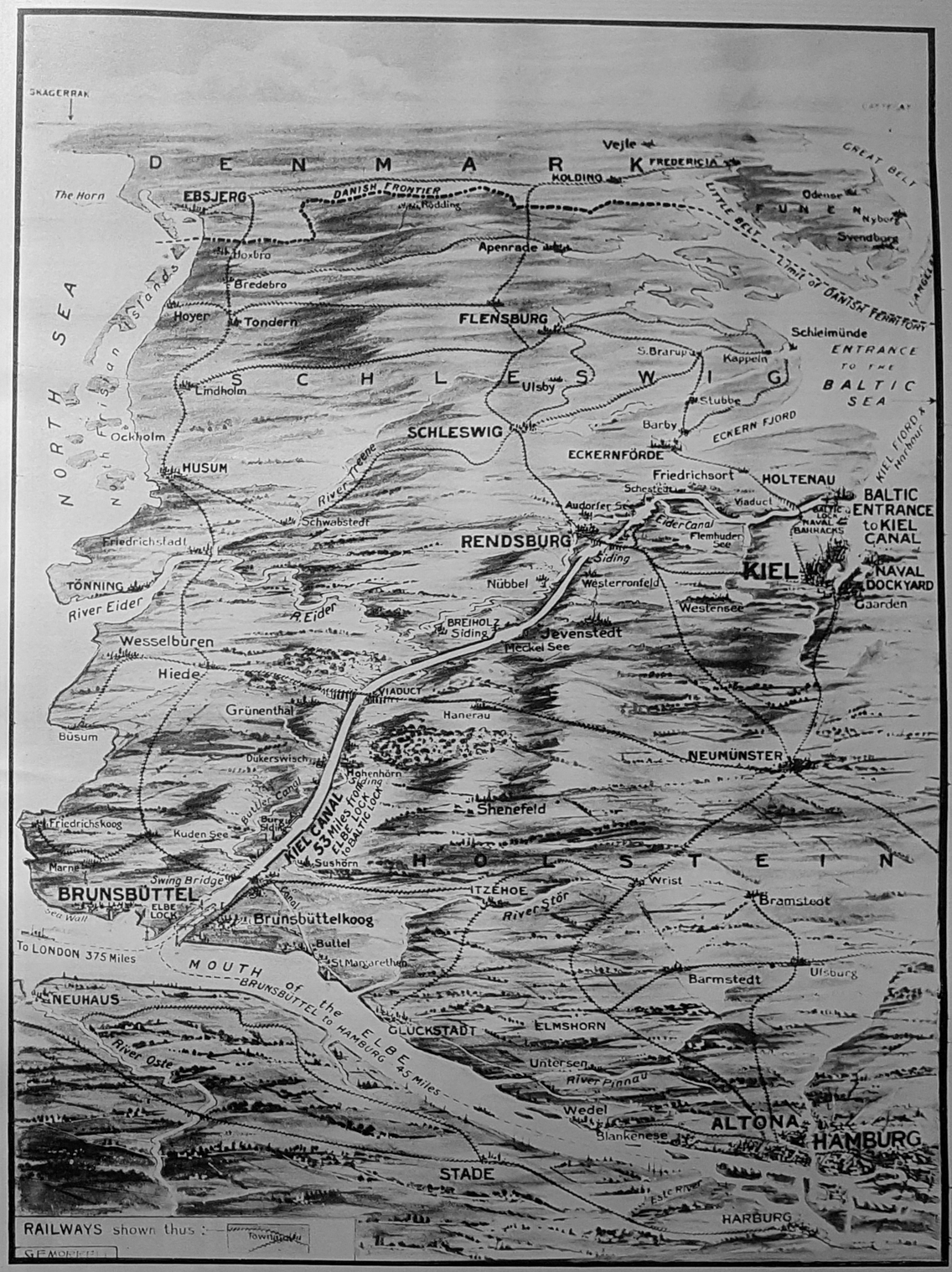
COMMANDANT COLLINS AND HIS BRITISH TROOPS ATTEND A CHURCH SERVICE IN PRETORIA BEFORE LEAVING TO PURSUE THE BOER REBELS
(Photo from Photo Press.)

GERMAN ARTILLERY OCCUPYING AN ABANDONED FORT IN BELGIUM DURING THE FIRST SNOWFALL OF THE SEASON



A GROUP OF OFFICERS OF THE HUNGARIAN HUSSARS, THE CRACK VIENNESE REGIMENT WHICH WAS WIPED OUT AT LILLE, FRANCE.
This interesting photograph includes the Duke of Connaught as Honorary Colonel, the Duke of Teck and Archduke Salvator, the son-in-law of Emperor Franz Joseph.

THE KAISERIN VISITING THE WOUNDED AT THE COLOGNE STATION IN BERLIN.
(Photo from Paul Thompson.)



A TOPOGRAPHICAL MAP SHOWING IN DETAIL THE CONSTRUCTION AND STRATEGIC POSITION OF THE KIEL CANAL, WHICH HAS BEEN CALLED "THE JUGULAR VEIN OF THE GERMAN NAVY."
(Reproduced by Courtesy of Leslie's.)

RUSSIAN SOLDIERS RESCUE A CORRESPONDENT'S CAR FROM THE MUD IN POLAND.

GERMAN CAVALRY ENTERING LODZ, THE STORM CENTRE OF THE FIGHTING IN THE EAST
(Photo from Engelbrecht.)

PRINCE CARL FRANZ JOSEPH VON EITERVEICH AT THE FORTRESS OF PRZEMYSL.
(Photo (C) by International News Service.)

RUSSIAN ARTILLERY OPERATING ON THE SNOW-COVERED SLOPES BETWEEN THE VISTULA AND WARTHE.
(Photo (C) by International News Service.)

A FLOODED TRENCH IN FLANDERS ABANDONED BY THE GERMANS.

A GERMAN SCRIBBLES A HASTY NOTE TO LOVED ONES AT HOME.

THE INNOCENT VICTIM, by S. Seymour Thomas

THIS FAMOUS PAINTING, DEPICTING AN INCIDENT IN THE FRANCO-PRUSSIAN WAR, WAS FIRST EXHIBITED AT THE PARIS SALON OF 1892, ATTRACTING A GREAT DEAL OF ATTENTION AT A TIME WHEN THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT WAS MAKING ITS FIRST MOVE TOWARD THE SEPARATION OF CHURCH AND STATE IN FRANCE BY PROHIBITING THE SERVICE OF NUNS IN MILITARY HOSPITALS

(Reproduced by courtesy of the Artist and Braun, Clement & Co.)

RUSSIAN TRANSPORT ADVANCING THROUGH THE DIFFICULT MARSH LAND OF POLAND.

EGYPTIAN MOUNTAIN GUN BATTERY LEAVING CAIRO TO CHECK THE TURKISH ADVANCE.

FRENCH TROOPS PASSING THROUGH THE VILLAGE OF CAPY, WHICH IS DAMAGED BY ARTILLERY FIRE.
(Photos (C) by International News Service.)

A BATTERY OF HEAVY AUSTRIAN GUNS FACING THE RUSSIANS IN GALICIA.

WHAT THE ENEMY'S SHELLS DID TO DOMREMY, THE BIRTHPLACE OF JOAN OF ARC.
(Photos (C) by International News Service.)

AN ALGERIAN PATROL ON THE BEACH AT THE WEST COAST OF BELGIUM.

THE ADVANCE COSSACK PATROL OCCUPIES RIELA AFTER THE DEPARTURE OF THE GERMANS.

GOATS TO FEED THE INDIAN TROOPS ON THE BANKS OF THE YSER.
(Photo (C) by International News Service.)

AMERICAN WOMEN IN MUNICH SERVING WITH THE GERMAN RED CROSS.
(Photo from Engelbrecht.)

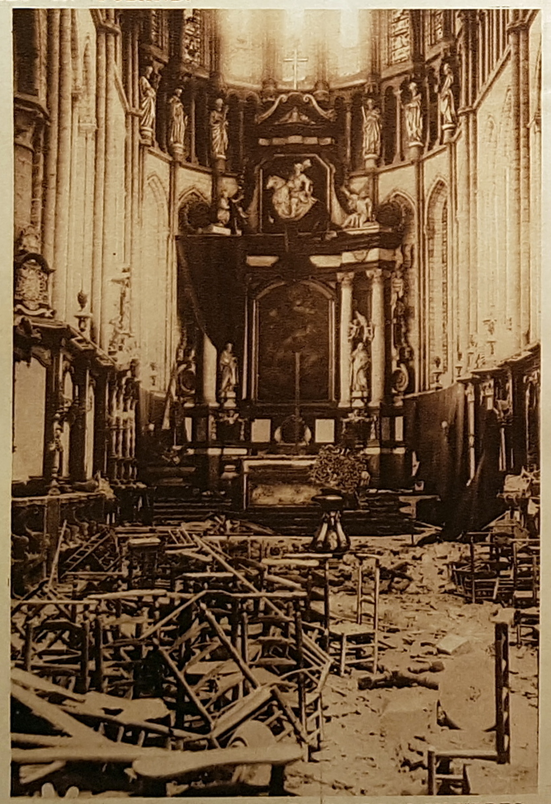
FRENCH SENTRY OUTPOST BIVOUACKED IN THE SNOW.
(Photo (C) by Underwood & Underwood.)

Jubilee Celebration to the Commander of the Fortress of Przemysl on the Raising of the First Siege.
(Photo from Paul Thompson.)

AN AUSTRIAN SOLDIER PRAYING AT THE GRAVE OF A FALLEN COMRADE BEFORE PRZEMYSL.
(Photo from Press Illustrating Co.)

A REGIMENT OF FRENCH RESERVISTS IN WARSAW NOW FIGHTING WITH THE RUSSIAN ARMIES IN POLAND.

RUSSIAN WOMEN PRAYING AT A DAMAGED SHRINE AT ROKITNOV, NEAR WARSAW.
(Photo (C) by Underwood & Underwood.)



THE CHANCEL OF THE CATHEDRAL IN YPRES DAMAGED BY THE BOMBARDMENT.
(Photo (C) by International News Service.)

A HOUSE IN WARSAW DAMAGED BY ONE OF 16 ZEPPELIN BOMBS WHICH FELL UPON WARSAW IN ONE DAY.

Prince Albert of Schleswig-Holstein, Whose Family Receives £6,000 a Year from the British Government. He Is Probably Fighting for Germany.
(Photo (C) by American Press Assn.)

Gen. Belin, Who Is Gen. Joffre's Right-hand Man and an Important Factor in the Control of the French Forces.
(Photo (C) by International News Service.)

FUNERAL OF A GERMAN PRISONER WHO DIED A CAPTIVE OF THE FRENCH IN A VILLAGE IN THE ALPS.

(Photos from Underwood & Underwood.)

RUINS OF THE FRENCH MANUFACTURING TOWN OF LILLE AFTER THE GERMAN OCCUPATION.

THE BEAUTIFUL TOWERS OF YPRES IN FLAMES.

(Photo (C) by International News Service.)

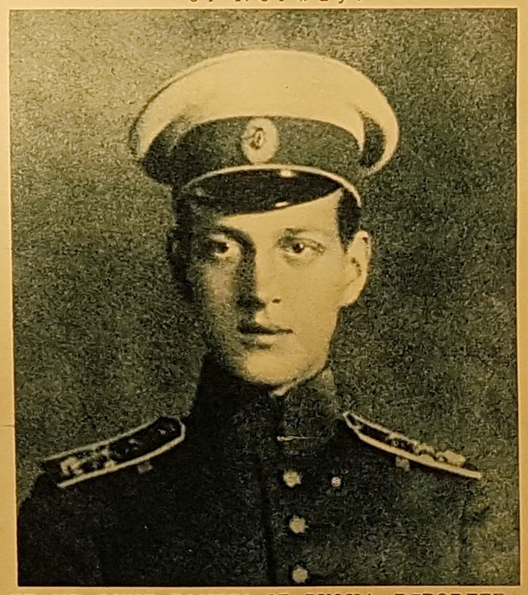
KING GUSTAV of Sweden.

KING HAAKON of Norway.

KING FREDERICK OF DENMARK.

The three Scandinavian Kings who attended the Conference at Malmö in Sweden on December 18th to discuss mutual problems arising from the war.

(Photos from Underwood & Underwood.)



GRAND DUKE DMITRI OF RUSSIA, REPORTED WOUNDED IN A BATTLE WITH GERMAN CAVALRY ON THE RIVER WARTHE.

(Photo (C) by American Press Assn.)

BRITISH RED CROSS OFFICERS VERY MUCH AT HOME IN THEIR LITTLE "DUGOUT" IN FLANDERS.
(Photo (C) by Underwood & Underwood.)

A CAUTIOUS GERMAN SCOUTING PARTY BEHIND A HAYSTACK NEAR SOISSONS.
(Photo from Paul Thompson.)

THE FIRST PHOTOGRAPH OF THE PRINCE OF WALES AT THE FRONT.
(Photo (C) by International News Service.)

GERMAN PRISONERS SENT BY THE FRENCH TO MOROCCO TO BE EMPLOYED AT ROADMAKING.
(Photo from Underwood & Underwood.)

GIFTS FOR THE GERMAN TROOPS BEING UNLOADED FROM RED CROSS WAGONS IN THE ARGONNE FOREST.

AUSTRIANS AT A RELIGIOUS SERVICE AT AN OPEN-AIR CHAPEL IN GALICIA.
(Photo (C) by International News Service.)

For New Year's

A subscription for The New York Times Mid-Week Pictorial War Extra, with a binder, is a most acceptable gift.

One year's subscription to **The New York Times Pictorial War Extra,** including binder:

Of Full Cloth.....$6.00
Of Full Imitation Leather 6.50
Of Half Leather, gold trimmed 6.75

Postage free in United States, Mexico, Panama, Canal Zone, Cuba, Porto Rico, Hawaii, Philippines, Guam, Samoa, Shanghai.

Subscription price of War Extra in Canada, $6.00 per year, pro rata. In other countries, $6.50 per year, and pro rata.

The New York Times
Mid-Week Pictorial War Extra
TIMES SQUARE, NEW YORK

THE BURNING RUINS OF YPRES.

A Remarkable Phctograph Showing the Cloth Hall in the Market Place of Ypres in Flames.

(Photo (C) by International News Service.)